

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/693,342	MCERLEAN, PATRICK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas Duong	2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 29 July 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-16, and 30-37.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. The Applicants' arguments and amendments filed on July 29, 2005 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. *Claims 1, 3-16, and 30-37 are allowed. The claims indicated include limitations that the prior arts of record do not appear to teach or render obvious, hence they are allowed.*
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As presented in the previous office action, Angotti (US005790789) discloses a method for classifying each incoming electronic messages, distributing them to the human operator for response, and storing them in a database for future retrieval and Hall (US006026396A) discloses a method of adding a thread identifier to the original message so that related future correspondence can be associated with the original message. However, the prior arts of record fail to teach or suggest individually or in combination as stated in the independent claims for "means for generating a routing tag, which routing tag Includes the respective unique message identifying means associated with said first electronic message; wherein the mail client is arranged to cause said routing tag to be included in the second electronic message and to cause said second electronic message to be sent out of said electronic processing system" and "the classification module being arranged ... wherein said processing includes associating, by

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means of said respect unique message identifier included in said routing tag, said returned second electronic message, or derivative thereof, with said first electronic message stored in said storage means, and wherein the association between the returned second electronic message, or derivative thereof, and the first electronic message stored in said storage means causes, upon generation of a response message to said first electronic message by said at least one mail client, any response text generated by said one first agent in respect of said first electronic message and any response text included in said returned second electronic message, or derivative thereof, to be included in said response message”, and in combination with other limitations as set forth in the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Yeager (US006167402A) relates to the organization and storage of e-mail message data accessed by clients over a computer network. In particular, as Yeager describes in figure 3, *“fields 320 through 328 are part of the data portion of the index file 105 of the index file cell. In the described embodiment, the store parsing level for IMAP is two and for POP is zero. Envelope flag field 320 contains an envelope flag value 319 and indicates whether the system analyzed*

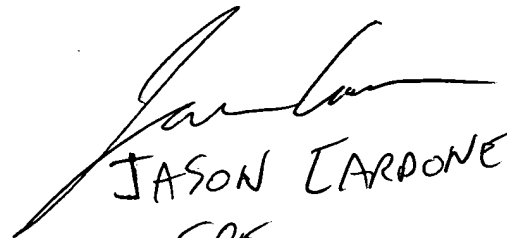
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the message data. IN the described embodiment, if the message is in IMAP, the envelope flag is one, and if it is in POP the envelope flag is zero. Thus, by using the envelope flag 319, the system does not waste time attempting to analyze the POP message" (Yeager, col.10, lines 34-43).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Duong whose telephone number is 571/272-3911. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30AM - 4:00PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason D. Cardone can be reached on 571/272-3933. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571/273-8300 for regular communications and 571/273-8300 for After Final communications.

Thomas Duong (AU2145)

October 14, 2005


JASON CARDONE
SPE
AU: 2145